GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:118
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2015
School Funds
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that shortage of teachers in Government schools and the dilapidated condition of school buildings are affecting the education scenario in various States of the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the amount of funds sought by the States and released by the Government for the education sector during the last three years;

(c) the reasons for underutilisation of funds under various scheme heads of Department of Education and Literacy;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure the optimum utilisation of funds;

(e) whether the Government is planning to reduce the count of 1191 pending utilisation certificates and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether the "per child" expense on education has increased under primary and middle school level during the present plan period and if so, the details thereof along with the target fixed under the present plan in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a): Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is a centrally sponsored scheme implemented to support the States/UTs for universalization of elementary education across the country. Under SSA, a total of 19.48 lakh teacher posts have been sanctioned to ensure the pupil-teacher ratio as stipulated in the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, against which 15.59 lakh teacher posts have been filled up as on 31st August, 2015 and there are 3.9 lakh teacher posts vacant. As per Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE) 2014-15 (Provisional) there are 6340 Government elementary schools with dilapidated building. State-wise vacancies of teachers under SSA is at Annexure-I. State-wise vacancies of teachers under RMSA is at Annexure-II. A statement of State-wise number of dilapidated Government elementary school buildings is at Annexure-III. A statement of State-wise number of dilapidated Government secondary school buildings is at Annexure-IV.

(b): The details of funds released by the Department under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) during the last three years are at Annexure-V and VI, respectively.

(c): The under utilisation of funds in the Schemes was due to non- receipt of adequate number of viable proposals from States/ UTs. The releases are based on position of unspent balances available with the implementing agencies, pace of expenditure and pending Utilisation Certificates (UCs).

(d) and (e): The Central share is released in instalments based on expenditure, release of commensurate State share, quantum of outstanding advances and receipt of utilization certificates. While releasing the 2nd instalment under SSA, the furnishing of audited utilization certificates by State Implementing Societies is a prerequisite. The component-wise quarterly review meetings of Finance Controllers, meetings of Education Secretaries and regular meetings with State officials are held to ensure proper utilisation and monitoring of funds.
Under SSA, the expenditure has almost been equal to the amount allocated under Revised Estimate during the last three years as shown in the table given below:
(Rs. in crore)
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S. No. Year Revised Estimate (RE) Actual Expenditure (AE) AE as a % of RE
1 2012-2013 23875.83 23858.01 99.93
2 2013-2014 26608.01 24820.93 93.28
3 2014-2015 24380.00 24122.51 98.94
4 2015-2016 22000.00 (BE) 13213.36 * 60.06
(As against BE)
* As on 17th November, 2015
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Savings of Rs 432.08 crore in 2014-15 were due to funds not utilized / not required by North Eastern Region (NER) States. Thus, it is evident that the funds made available under the SSA scheme are fully utilized and the capacity for expenditure under SSA exists.

The RMSA, since its revision in 2014-15, subsumed the schemes of ICT at schools, vocationalisation of Secondary Education,

Inclusive Education for Disabled at Secondary Stage and girl's hostels, which extends to Higher Secondary classes and covers both Government and Aided Schools.

The utilization certificates under SSA have been issued in respect of all States/UTs up to 2013-14 except for the UT of Daman & Diu. However, in respect of RMSA, 172 UCs are pending as on 30.10.2015.

(f): The per child expenditure per annum under SSA (Central share) for elementary schools, has shown an increase as compared to 2012-13 . The funds provided under SSA to the States/UTs are additional to the States' own allocation/expenditure on education for elementary schools. In the current Plan period starting from 2012-13, detailed information on funds provided to States/UTs under SSA and the corresponding per child expenditure is at Annexure-VII.

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